

COLGATE & CO.'S 1806 LAUNDRY SOAP.

Used by the best families.

In this case in chancery to the rule of the court, and for no other reason.

The Judge would not say what the allowance was.

Edmond Kelly, the referee, was seen at his home, No. 107 East Sixtieth-st., last night. He would not discuss the case nor say anything pertaining to the proceedings.

Henry H. Anderson, of Anderson, Howland & Murray, of counsel for Mr. Vanderbilt, when seen by a Tribune reporter at his home, No. 24 Gramercy Park, said that, beyond the decree of divorce, nothing would be made public. There would be small use, he thought, in having the papers sealed if the contents were discussed afterward.

Cornelius Vanderbilt said: "I will not say anything. I never talk about the business of my clients, and especially not in such a delicate matter as this." When asked if Mr. Vanderbilt put in any defense, Cornelius Jay said: "I will not answer that or any other question. I must positively decline to discuss the matter."

William K. Vanderbilt is the second of the four sons of the late William H. Vanderbilt. He was born at Staten Island on December 12, 1849, and therefore now in his forty-sixth year. After going through an academic course in this country he completed his education at Geneva, in Switzerland. On returning to America he entered at once into the service of the New-York Central Railroad Company. His father, who was then executive officer of the road, put him into the operating and traffic department, while his brother Cornelius was placed in the finance department. William K. in this position developed a very marked business capacity, and gave promise of becoming prominent in the railway world.

MADE SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT.

As early as 1877 he was made second vice-president of the New-York Central and Hudson River Railroad Company, and in 1882 he and his brother Cornelius took active charge of the management of the great Vanderbilt system.

After the death of the Commodore William H. Vanderbilt decided to retire from active control of the Vanderbilt railways, and he then reorganized the system between New-York and Chicago by making Cornelius chairman of the New-York Central board, with Chauncey M. Depew as president, H. D. Ledyard president of the Michigan board, and William K. Vanderbilt as chairman of the Lake Shore board and subsequently of the Nickel Plate board. After giving these men the supervisory control of these companies he took them out of the active management of the corporations. Notwithstanding this, however, both William K. and his brother Cornelius have given very close personal attention to everything relating to the corporations of which they are chairman of the boards of directors.

William K. is and always has been a sportsman, and is a member of the Coaching Club, and in the active management of the Long Island and Jerome Park Jockey clubs has done much for the development of racing interests in the United States. Also as a yachtsman, first as the owner of the Alva and subsequently of the Valiant, probably the handsomest yacht in the world, he has gained an international reputation.

THE FORTUNE LEFT HIM BY HIS FATHER.

William H. Vanderbilt on his death gave to each of his eight children \$10,000,000 (and as the securities on which these legacies were represented were reckoned at par value the actual amount was considerably higher than this sum), and after giving in addition some millions to his eldest son, Cornelius, he divided the balance of his great estate equally between Cornelius and William K., thus making these two sons among the richest, if not the richest, men in the world.

MRS. VANDERBILT'S FAMILY.

Mrs. Vanderbilt was Miss Alva Smith, the daughter of a cotton broker in this city, the family having previously come from Middle, Ala. Her family, while an excellent one, of prominence socially, was not wealthy. She was, however, an attractive young woman, and Mr. Vanderbilt was at once interested in her when they met at a reception given by his sister, Mrs. Elliott F. Shepard. Their marriage took place in 1875, and was a superb affair. Mrs. Vanderbilt has two sisters, one of whom was married to Fernando Yznaga, and the other to Baron de Fontenay, a Frenchman. As the Baron belonged to an impoverished family, Mr. Vanderbilt made a liberal allowance to him and his wife. The demands of the Baron and the Baroness on Mr. Vanderbilt's purse were such as to exhaust his patrimonies. He refused, therefore, to increase the allowance further, and the Baron felt compelled to obtain a place as riding master in an uptown riding academy. This step, however, did not help him, but later occupied several flats in succession. Their financial difficulties greatly affected their tempers, and quarrels followed. The Baron's next came into public notice by announcing through the newspapers that she was going on the stage. She declared that she had made a study of the dramatic art to prepare herself for this career. She was dissuaded, however, from carrying out this intention. It was taken for granted that the Vanderbilts were strongly adverse to having even a relative by marriage become an actress that William K. paid her liberally not to take that step. She and the Baron thereupon went to Paris.

A few years after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt he built the house at the corner of Fifty-second-st. and Madison-av., which cost all doubtless one of the handsomest private residences in the United States. In the designing and erection of this house Mrs. Vanderbilt took great interest. The fancy dress ball which was given to celebrate the opening of this mansion was one of the most unique, elegant and wonderful entertainments ever seen in New-York. Mr. Vanderbilt's fondness for sport and country life caused him to relinquish the estate called "The Hour" at Oakdale, L. I., and on an average several thousands in extent he enjoys fine hunting and splendid fishing. He built also the famous Marble House at Newport, which is one of the sights of the City-by-the-Sea, with its many granite and marble palaces, which are called for comfort and convenience "cottages" and "villas."

SINCE THE SEPARATION.

Since his separation from his wife Mr. Vanderbilt has made the Metropolitan Club his nominal home. He leased two magnificent suites

in the building.

COLONEL VANDERBILT'S HASTY TRIP.

More than one such story was afloat when the dispatches were first received in this city announcing that Mrs. Vanderbilt was taking steps for a divorce. This report received further credence because Cornelius Vanderbilt had made a hasty visit abroad with the ill-concealed purpose of patching up a peace. Colonel William Jay, Mrs. Vanderbilt's lawyer, also hastened across the water. Rumor went so far as to declare that a basis of separation had been agreed upon, and that Mrs. Vanderbilt was to receive \$300,000 a year and the three houses at Newport, Ithia and in the city.

On September 1, Mr. Vanderbilt returned with his three children to this country and went directly to Newport. Later she returned to this city and was a conspicuous figure at the Horse Show in Madison Square Garden in the second week in November. When the season opened in town Mrs. Vanderbilt and her daughter were frequent attendants at the opera, and a few weeks before the close of the season, when strangers were noticing her in the box, she was seen to be in the action of Mr. Vanderbilt. She instructed the directors of the Opera House not to permit any one to use his box without a written order from himself; otherwise to sell the box for every performance.

Mrs. Vanderbilt, since her return to New-York, has given small dinner parties and a quiet life at her home in Fifth-av.

MR. VANDERBILT'S RETURN.

William K. Vanderbilt returned to this country on December 12, and went to the home of his mother, Mrs. William H. Vanderbilt. There were numerous reports at that time that a reconciliation had taken place, and that Mr.

and Mrs. Vanderbilt had been at luncheon together. But there was never any confirmation of this assertion, and, although Mr. Vanderbilt saw his children, there is no reason to believe he ever had an interview with his wife. He is at present in Europe, having sailed on the same steamer which carried William Wardour Astor back to England after the funeral of Mrs. Astor.

A few months ago stories were circulated that Miss Consuelo Vanderbilt was soon to marry an English nobleman of the highest rank, and the

rooms in the club had them converted into one. They overlook Central Park and Fifth-av. These he leases by the year. Like the other men of his family, he belongs to a number of clubs, the list being the Metropolitan, Vanderville, Players', Riding, Racquet, Coaching, County of Westchester, South Side Sportsmen's, Meadow Brook Hunt and New-York Yacht clubs. He is, besides, a member of the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the American Geographical Society. He has from the beginning been the chief owner of the stocks and bonds of the Coney Island Jockey Club, and when in this country is a frequent attendant at the races of that association. He bets freely on the contests, but not heavily. Both he and Mrs. Vanderbilt are fond of yachting. After the sinking of the Alva, in a collision off the Massachusetts coast he bought the Valiant, an English-built boat. A gay party started on her for a tour around the world, but the domestic gatherings grew so unrestrained that the journey had to be curtailed.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt have always been in a fine social position, and have been liberal in their entertainments, both in New-York, Newport, and upon their yacht. They have three children, the eldest being Miss Consuelo, who is about eighteen years of age. The next is a son, William K., Jr., born October 6, 1878, who is a

handsome boy, and the third is a daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt's stay here he was entertained by his friends and family. Mrs. Vanderbilt was not invited or included in any of the various gatherings of the Vanderbilt family given by them for Mr. Vanderbilt.

He will probably make his home in the future, when in New-York, at the Metropolitan Club.

Marble House, which represents nearly \$2,000,000, with the ground, was a gift to Mrs. Vanderbilt from her husband. It was completed in 1882.

THEIR ACTIVE ENTRANCE INTO SOCIETY.

At the time of their marriage society thought little of it, as Mrs. Vanderbilt's family was in no sense identified with the doings of the fashionable world. The wedding took place, of course, before the death of Commodore Vanderbilt, who left the bulk of his enormous fortune to his son, William H., the father of William K. Vanderbilt. It was not until Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt established themselves in the handsome granite mansion at the northwest corner of Fifth-ave. and Forty-second-st., which was a gift from William K. Vanderbilt, that they became identified with the then fashionable world of New-York, although they had been quite considerably and in many ways at their country home, Orange Farm, at Isip, Long Island.

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